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Denis BABIN Appl. No. 10/713,211

Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1. (previously presented) A nozzle configured to make injection molded components, comprising:

a nozzle body;

a melt channel running through the nozzle body configured to allow melt material flow;

a heater positioned within the nozzle body and adjacent one side of the melt channel; and

a thermally conductive device located inside the nozzle body, the thermally conductive device being configured to produce an even heat profile along an entire length of the melt channel.

- 2. (previously presented) The nozzle of claim 1, wherein the heater is integral with the thermally conductive device.
- 3. (previously presented) The nozzle of claim 1, further comprising a thermocouple.
- 4. (previously presented) The nozzle of claim 3, wherein the thermocouple is integral with the thermally conductive device.

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- 5. (previously presented) The nozzle of claim 3, further comprising:
- a control device configured to receive a signal from the thermocouple, wherein the heater is configured to be controlled via the control device based on the received signal from the thermocouple.
- 6. (previously presented) The nozzle of claim 3, wherein the thermally conductive device is located proximate one or more of the thermocouple and the heater.
- 7. (previously presented) The nozzle of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of melt channels.
- 8. (previously presented) The nozzle of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of heaters.
- 9. (previously presented) The nozzle of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of thermocouples.
- 10. (previously presented) The nozzle of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of thermally conductive devices.
- 11. (previously presented) The nozzle of claim 1, wherein the nozzle is a micro nozzle.

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- 12. (previously presented) The nozzle of claim 1, wherein the nozzle is a flat micro nozzle.
- 13. (previously presented) The nozzle of claim 1, wherein the nozzle is thermal-gated.
- 14. (previously presented) The nozzle of claim 1, wherein the nozzle is valve gated.
- 15. (previously presented) The nozzle of claim 14, wherein a valve pin is inserted into a valve channel spaced from the melt channel.
- 16. (previously presented) The nozzle of claim 1, wherein the nozzle is edge gated.
- 17. (currently amended) The nozzle of claim 1, wherein the nozzle body is manufactured from at least one of tool steel, and a martensitic super alloy comprised of carbon, nickel, cobalt, chromium, molybdenum and iron AreMet 100 alloy, and AreMet 300 alloy.
- 18. (previously presented) The nozzle of claim 1, wherein the thermally conductive device is manufactured from at least one of copper, brass, beryllium, and aluminum.
- 19. (previously presented) The nozzle of claim 1, wherein the heater is at least one of a film heater, a coil heater, and a cartridge heater.

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- 20. (previously presented) The nozzle of claim 1, wherein the nozzle body is asymmetrical with respect to a longitudinal axis of the nozzle channel.
- 21. (previously presented) The nozzle of claim 1, further comprising removable nozzle tip.
- 22. (previously presented) The nozzle of claim 1, further comprising a nozzle seal portion.
- 23. (currently amended) A nozzle configured to produce injection molded components, comprising:
 - a nozzle body;
 - a melt channel located inside the nozzle body;
- a heater located inside the nozzle body adjacent <u>only</u> one side of the melt channel, said heater having an uneven <u>heat profile</u> with respect to the melt channel; and
- a thermally conductive device located between the heater and the melt channel that produces an even heat profile along the melt channel.
- 24. (previously presented) The nozzle of claim 23, wherein the nozzle body comprises an asymmetrical nozzle body.
- 25. (previously presented) The nozzle of claim 23, wherein the nozzle comprises a flat nozzle.

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- 26. (currently amended) An injection nozzle comprising:
 - a nozzle body made from a first material;
 - a melt channel located inside the nozzle body;
- a heater located inside the nozzle body adjacent on and positioned entirely on one side of the melt channel; and
- a thermally conductive device located between the heater and the melt channel, the thermally conductive device being made of a second material which is more thermally conductive than the first material.
- 27. (previously presented) The nozzle of claim 26, wherein the nozzle body is asymmetrical.
- 28. (previously presented) The nozzle of claim 26, wherein the thermally conductive device is located along one side of the melt channel.
- 29. (previously presented) The nozzle of claim 26, wherein the nozzle comprises a flat nozzle.
- 30. (New) The nozzle of claim 23, further comprising at least one heater located within the nozzle body adjacent a second side of the melt channel.

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- 31. (New) The nozzle of claim 23, wherein the nozzle body is made from a first material and the thermally conductive device is made of a second material that is more thermally conductive than the first material.
- 32. (New) The nozzle of claim 31, wherein the second material of the thermally conductive device is comprised of at least one of copper, brass, beryllium, and aluminum.
- 33. (New) The nozzle of claim 26, further comprising at least one heater located within the nozzle body adjacent a second side of the melt channel.
- 34. (New) The nozzle of claim 26, wherein the second material of the thermally conductive device is comprised of at least one of copper, brass, beryllium, and aluminum.